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NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

Annapolis Valley Regional Library (AVRL)

A date for the official launch of the AVRL-WCRL Smart Library Project, taking place at the Digby Library, will be announced within the next few months. Public services staff will attend an orientation workshop in March. Training will include re-introduction to the new web site, how to use the Calendar of Events, and a review of the Web Catalogue. It is hoped the web site will be operational by April 1. Charlotte Janes from AVRL and Virginia Stoddart from WCRL will make a presentation on the Smart Library Project at the CLA Conference in June, being held this year in Halifax.

The Annapolis Royal Library's Monday morning *Coffee and Chat* will continue until the end of March. Although the library is traditionally closed at this time, patrons are invited to bring a friend, enjoy some refreshments and discuss in depth the services offered by the library. To date, White Cane Week and the Talking Book/CNIB services have been discussed.

CAP staff at the Wolfville Memorial Library are presently offering a 3 month course on the Linux operating system. The course covers the basic use of Linux and includes some

programming and system administration.

The Wolfville Memorial Library, housed in a former railway station, is featuring a Train/Railroad theme for special March Break events. A local expert will offer a Show and Tell program with railway artifacts, a slide show, etc. The Annapolis Valley Model Railway Club will host a 3 day craft program and will have an operating model train. The Windsor and Hantsport Railway, together with the RCMP, will host a safety program.

"Superheroes" was the theme of a recent storytime at the Wolfville Memorial Library, and Captain Capsite made a welcome appearance!

Cape Breton Regional Library (CBRL)

March is Library Card Month

March marks CBRL's fourth annual Library Card Month celebration. During this time, the library in partnership with the local newspaper, the Cape Breton Post, will hold special events and promotions to highlight the importance of having a library card. Each year since Library Card Month began, membership goals have exceeded expectations. This year the goal is to register 1,500 members during March. The library's wealth of information has helped to ensure strong, informed communities in Cape Breton and Victoria County. As of February patrons can register for their library card online at **www.cbrl.ca**.

In anticipation of Author Reading Week, a CBRL Staff member shows one of the specially produced t-shirts which advertise "Spring Reading Celebration with Cape Breton Authors."

Author Reading Week

As part of Library Card Month's promotional campaign, Cape Breton authors will visit communities in the Cape Breton Regional Municipality and Victoria County, giving readings and promoting literacy. This promotion is to attract the public's attention to the value of lifelong literacy skills and highlight the value of having a library card. The event celebrates writing, increases library membership across the region and advances literacy through library use. The Author Reading Week takes place during the school March break, March 11 to 16. CBRL received funding from the local Labour Market Development Agreement (LMDA) group to sponsor this event.

Colchester-East Hants Regional Library (CEHRL)

Eskimo Bob

Teen Friends had an enthusiastic turnout for the monthly program Teen Topics when they welcomed Eskimo Bob and his Bible Hill creators, Tomas and Alan Guinan. This online cartoon, which can be viewed at **www.eskimobob.com**, has 28 episodes to date and has attracted a large audience reaching as far as Europe.

Prospect Research Online

While visiting her parents near Truro, a young aid worker stationed in Santa Cruz, Bolivia discovered the Prospect Research On Line (PRO) database available at CEHRL's Gates Learning Centre. She spent two afternoons researching her work with abandoned street children. As a result of the PRO search, the patron recorded a number of potential donor web sites and hoped to continue her research from an Internet site in Santa Cruz.

Seniors on the Web

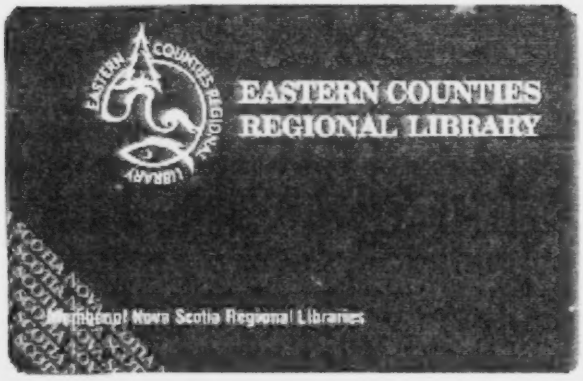
Monday morning Internet classes for seniors from the general public and from the Community Enhancement Association have been a big hit. As well, a six-week Internet program for seniors, held at the 5-station Elmsdale Learning (CAP) Centre is very popular, with eighteen patrons already on a waiting list.

Stewiacke Branch Benefits from CAP Move

Patrons served by the Stewiacke branch library/CAP site have benefited from a recent move by the Stewiacke and Area Community Access Program Society. Moving from two locations to one, the society transferred two computers, a printer, and a fax machine from the South Colchester Development Association office to the library. CEHRL can now offer access to a Macintosh computer as a result. In the near future, CAP society member Donna Henley will be offering Internet training sessions at the library.

Eastern Counties Regional Library (ECRL)

Winter conditions have not slowed things down at ECRL. Library staff from PARL were invited to join ECRL in facilitating library web page workshops for teaching staff from the Strait Regional School Board (SRSB). Several in-services were held for this purpose at the Mulgrave Professional Development Centre. Joe Martell, Technical Integration Project Leader for the SRSB, thanked library staff for the "great job you did with the teachers during the in-service sessions. The teachers all seemed very happy to get the information and I am most appreciative of your efforts on their behalf... Both the Pictou-Antigonish web site and the Eastern Counties site will be of tremendous help to teachers as they try to integrate computers into their classroom curriculum."



Preparations are underway for the first ever Library Card Month, to be held in March. Plans have been made to promote the campaign through the Branch libraries, community newspapers, local radio stations, cable stations and displays that will travel throughout the three counties. The library encourages the public to *Get Carded* and will make available draw prizes of newspaper subscriptions for adults and books for children who participate.

In concert with the membership campaign, ECRL is joining with neighbouring regional libraries, CEHRL, CURL, and PARL to present a *Spring Reading Festival* during March Break. The festival aims to promote the love of reading and the value of holding a library card. Authors will conduct readings throughout the counties and include members of the *Write Club*,

March 10 in Mabou at 2:00 pm; Thelma Morris Fogarty, March 12 in Port Hawkesbury at 3:30 pm; Beatrice MacNeil, March 13 in St. Peters at 2:30 pm; Elaine Ingalls Hogg, also on March 13 at 6:30 pm, in Petit de Grat; and Dan Doucet, March 14 in Canso at 6:30 pm.

Halifax Regional Library (HRL)

HRL Receives Grants

HRL recently received two very generous grants. The first was an $80,000 contribution from HRDC to assist HRL in developing and delivering information technology skills modules to the unemployed or to those without computer access. The second grant, in the amount of $4,000, was given to the Library by the Cobequid Community Health Board. This money will be used to purchase additional health materials, specifically nutrition and exercise books and videos, to be shared by all HRL branches.

New Filtering Software for Family Use Computers

HRL is presently installing filtering software called Cyber Sentinel on at least one *family use computer* per branch. This software is designed to screen out sexually explicit web sites that users may find offensive and inappropriate for children's reading and viewing. However, it does not prevent access to all potentially offensive or inappropriate sites. HRL is making this service available to its patrons in an on-going effort to provide safe, enjoyable public Internet access.

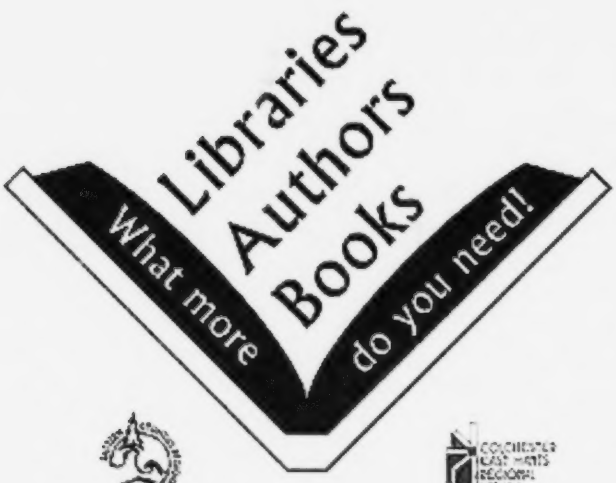
Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library (PARL)

In late January three members of PARL's staff attended the Ontario Library Association's Super Conference 2002 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Among the presenters was Buffy Sainte-Marie, who spoke about her involvement with libraries and how important they are in life-long learning. Left to right: Peggy Hiscock, Buffy Sainte-Marie, and Bernice Cameron.

Despite the nasty weather, the evening of Friday, February 1 proved to be a very special occasion at the New Glasgow Library. Producer, Director, and actor Anthony Sherwood presented in PARL's Program Room a screening of his docu-drama, *Honor Before Glory*, the story of Canada's one and only Black battalion, the No. 2 Construction Battalion. Fans will remember Sherwood from the popular CBC television series, *Street Legal*, which ran for eight seasons during the late 1980s and early 1990s. Currently, he can be seen on CBC television and the Discovery Network. A captivated audience listened as Sherwood set up the making of his four-year project, recounting the many obstacles, both financial and professional, he encountered while trying to produce the film.

In July 2000, Anthony Sherwood was present during the dedication of the stone marker for the battalion on the Pictou waterfront. This month he will be in Los Angeles presenting the film to the Black Film Makers Association of Hollywood. From left to right: Steve MacLean (PARL), Glenda Jones, Anthony Sherwood, Crystal States.

On the evening of Wednesday, February 19, the New Glasgow Library achieved an all-time attendance record for an adult program as 110 persons crowded into PARL's Program Room to listen to local psychic and medium Alan Hatfield. People were arriving as early as 6:20 p.m. and by 7:10 p.m. the doors were closed, as the fire regulation limit was reached. For nearly three hours, Hatfield held the crowd's attention as he shared his experiences of encounters with the afterlife and gave demonstrations on dowsing and psychometry.



Plans for the *Spring Reading Festival*, scheduled for the week of March 10 - 16 are proceeding. The arrival of the posters and much coveted cloth book bags, designed by PARL staff, are eagerly anticipated.

The four regional library systems taking part in this unique celebration of libraries, books, and authors (*Spring Reading Festival)* are PARL, CURL, ECRL and CEHRL. With 15 Nova Scotian authors reading at 16 libraries, it will provide an excellent opportunity for the public to appreciate the wealth of literary talent in our midst. Coordinators of the event are Brenda McKenna, Ruby Chisholm, and Bev Fenton.

South Shore Regional Library (SSRL)

Freedom to Read Week

SSRL celebrated *Freedom To Read Week* which took place this year the week of February 24 to March 2, 2002. The theme was *Censorship, for it or against it, it's always a hot topic*! SSRL provided a list of books others think you SHOULDN'T read!

Lunenburg Library Expansion

The Lunenburg Library branch has begun the construction phase of an expansion into the old Art Gallery space. SSRL hopes to keep the branch open during the renovation, except during the final phase of construction, when patrons will be served by a mobile branch.

Western Counties Regional Library (WCRL)

Board Member Profile

Life long learning are not idle words for Roberta Journeay. She has spent a life time pursuing and achieving her academic goals. Raised in the Peace River District of Northern B.C., Roberta came to Nova Scotia and attended Teachers College. As a grade three school

teacher in Digby County, and the mother of two young daughters, Roberta spent twenty years driving back and forth from her home in Weymouth to attend Acadia and Dalhousie Universities. In 1995 Roberta received the Master of Education in Counseling from Acadia University. In addition, she had completed the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education degrees at Acadia, and the Bachelor of Social Work from Dalhousie University.

In 1998 Roberta retired from teaching and, following in the footsteps of her late husband, Foster, she submitted her name for Municipal Councillor. She was elected to council in the fall of 2000. She accepted appointments to the Library Board, the Digby and Area Leaning Assoc., Waste Check, Tideview Terrace and the Weymouth Board of Trade.

Civic duties aside, Roberta hones her speaking skills by being a member of both Yarmouth Toastmasters and the Sissaboo Speakers Toastmasters group in Weymouth. She is a member of the Weymouth Friends of the Library and a volunteer with the Weymouth Historical Society. A highlight of Roberta's year is spending time with her two granddaughters who often visit during summer months.

Adopt-A-Book

The kick-off of the 4th WCRL *Adopt-A-Book* campaign takes place at the Yarmouth library on Friday, April 5. The three month campaign will be launched with a variety show organized by Sandra and Megan Fitzgerald. The campaign slogan is *Hug Your Library: Adopt-A-Book*, and as in previous years, the goal is to have 1,000 books adopted within a three month period.

Read to Me! Program

On Monday, Jan. 28 WCRL played a support role in the province wide launch of *Read to Me!* The $3-million program aims to combat Nova Scotia's low literacy rates by encouraging parents to read to their babies. The program, developed by the IWK Health Centre, was launched via satellite in Halifax, Yarmouth and Sydney hospitals. Western Counties children's librarian Joanne Head (below) was on hand to entertain some of the young guests who attended the Yarmouth hospital launch.

***Read to Me!* is a partnership of the IWK and its auxiliary, along with the Department of Education, Human Resources and Development, Halifax Youth Foundation and the CBC. The group plans to hand out canvas book bags with reading guides, library cards and two books, in English, French or Mi'kimaw, to each of the 10,000 babies born in Nova Scotia each year.**

Isaiah W. Wilson on the Web

Over a hundred and thirty years ago, at the age of nineteen, Isaiah W. Wilson (1848-1928) began his life-long pursuit, on foot, of gathering information about his predecessors in Digby County. His quest resulted in the publication of *A Geography and History of the County of Digby*. The book is the only account of Digby County history in existence.

Isaiah's contributions have been recognized on several occasions during the past few years, and on February 16 the humble historian was honoured once again with the official launch of the Isaiah W. Wilson Web page. The web page, funded by LibraryNet and designed by Virginia Stoddard and Fenwick Jeffrey, contains information about Isaiah W. Wilson, his times, his book, and background on the commemorative display in the lobby of the Isaiah W.Wilson Memorial Library. You can check out the page at **www.wcr.library.ns.ca/isaiah/main.html**.

Mental Health Awareness

In February, a Mental Health Awareness program for Western Nova Scotia was launched at the McKay Memorial Library in Shelburne. The program was made possible through the Empowered Consumer Action Network (ECAN) and the Information and Education for Wellness Partnership, which includes WCRL. Linda McNicol, RN, from the Shelburne Mental Health Centre and ECAN President Sue Goreham presented an overview of the new mental

health resources available in the community. Similar presentations will be held through the region in the up-coming months. A six part video series titled *Inside Mental Health: Myth & Reality*, aired on Eastlink Television last fall. The videos, dealing with access to mental health services in Western Nova Scotia, are now available through WCRL.

Staffing Notes

WCRL has welcomed several new staff members over the past few weeks and months. At headquarters, Glenda Wheeler was hired to replace Cindy d'Entremont and Julie Keddy is the new student worker for HQ. Bonnie Doucette, Richard Beharriell and Kim Scott are the new reserves in Yarmouth, and Shaunda Trask is Yarmouth's new student. Gary Newman is the new student in Digby. Eileen d'Eon was hired as a reserve for the Pubnico branch.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES (SLIS)

The School of Library and Information Studies is very pleased to announce that Prof. Haidar Moukdad successfully defended his doctoral dissertation at McGill University. His dissertation, entitled *A Comparison of Root and Stemming Techniques for the Retrieval of Arabic Documents*, was completed under the supervision of Dr. Andrew Large.

Dr. Moukdad's research focusses on cross-language information retrieval and development of multimedia. He was recently informed that his paper, *Designing and Developing Multimedia CD-ROMS: Lessons from the Treasures of Islam*, published in *Online Information Review*, was selected by the editor and editorial team as the most "Outstanding Paper" of the 2001 volume. This paper (co-authored with Jamshid Beheshti and Andrew Large) was selected for its "new and useful information which will benefit readers," and its "appropriate presentation and style that allows easy access to concepts and data." The award will be presented in London, England on April 11, 2002.

Future columns will highlight other projects ongoing at the School. For further information about these or any other SLIS activities and Programs contact the Director, Bertrum MacDonald, at macdonal@is.dal.ca, (902) 494-2472 or visit the web site at: **http://www.mgmt.dal.ca/slis**.

HOT TIPS & UPDATES HOT

NEW ONLINE SERVICES FROM INDUSTRY CANADA

Industry Canada has consolidated many online services and information for businesses at **http://businessgateway.ca**. This web site includes useful information aimed specifically at small businesses. How to start a business, how to register for GST/HST, how to file taxes

online, and a selection of government regulations affecting businesses are just some of the things that can be found here. This site will be useful for people interesting in starting a business or already operating a small business.

One of the newest features of this site is the Innovation Management Toolkit at **http://prodt.businesscanada.gc.ca/CFDOCS/Firm_en/main.html**. Completing the Toolkit's interactive questionnaires will result in a series of diagnostic tools evaluating an organization's performance in a number of key areas.

There is a role here for public libraries, in training business people in the use of these sites, and as useful information providers on behalf of the federal government. The online access available in libraries, as well as the trained staff and high approval rating in the community, make libraries logical partners for the federal government as they proceed with the implementation of online government information and services.

UNICORN DEMONSTRATIONS

Wearing their new SIRSI Canada hats, Madeleine Balcer and Andy Spilioe visited the Provincial Library in February to present SIRSI's Unicorn Library Management software. With the purchase of DRA by SIRSI in 2001, and the subsequent decision to focus development activity on Unicorn rather than on DRA's TAOS, all DRA customers are assessing this new option in their migration plans. NSPL's Automation Team spent a day in demos and discussions, then met again as part of the Automation Working Group for another day of demos with regional public library automation staff. SIRSI's award-winning iBistro web interface offers exciting possibilities for making the library the internet access point of choice for the public. The sessions also provided a good introduction to system functionality and a starting point for further discussion among the NcompasS consortium libraries and with SIRSI.

ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

Marged Dewar, representing the Nova Scotia Provincial Library (NSPL), attended the OLA Super Conference in Toronto at the end of January. Super Conference offers a wide range of session topics and the opportunity to meet staff from public libraries all over Ontario. With system migration issues dominating automation planning at NSPL this year, Marged focussed on re-building links with other DRA and SIRSI customers, meeting with the Ontario Library Consortium and Windsor Public Library. As well, a number of exciting sessions demonstrated the ways in which public libraries are harnessing the power of the web catalogue interface to provide access to a wide range of community resources, including non-traditional databases and digitized local history resources. Two very different and impressive examples are Halinet's implementation of *One-Place-to-Look* at **http://www.hhpl.on.ca** and Toronto Public Library's *Historicity: Toronto Then and Now* at **http://historicity.tpl.toronto.on.ca:9000**.

On the final morning, sessions on the recent discussion paper, *Building Value Together: a Vision for Change for Ontario Public Libraries,* put this technology into the context of positioning the public library as the access point of choice to a world of electronic and traditional information resources.

LIBRARY BOOK RATE

On February 18, CLA President Margaret Law announced that Canada Post and the Department of Canadian Heritage ratified a deal that will continue the Library Book Rate (LBR). Created in 1939, the LBR is a discount provided to Canadian libraries mailing print materials to other libraries or their users.

Understanding the value of the Library Book Rate to Canadians across the country, particularly to those in rural areas, CLA spoke to federal members of Parliament and officials from the Departments of Canadian Heritage, Industry Canada and Canada Post. Through its recently launched Campaign for Canada's Libraries, CLA voiced its concern that the Library Book Rate would be cancelled during the current round of negotiations. The response given was clear, it is essential to Canadians and their leaders that library materials can be delivered across the country through Canada Post at a discounted rate.

The three year deal will see the current mailing rate for libraries increase by 6.8% in 2002, 0% in 2003, and 6.3% in 2004, an overall increase of 13.1%. The Library Book Rate still applies only to print materials. The extension of the Rate to include non-print materials would provide significant support for Books by Mail services. CLA will be working with the Department and Canada Post in order to strengthen the ties between the three groups and to begin discussions for the next round of negotiations which will begin in 2004.

These discussions will be based in part on information that is currently being gathered in a study examining the use of the LBR. This study, which includes a survey component as well as consultations, was commissioned by the Department of Canadian Heritage; it is being conducted by ASM Consultants with Fuse Communications.

For more information on the LBR study, contact; Stan Skrzeszewski, ASM Consultants, 411 Rippleton Place, London, Ontario L6G 1L4. 519-473-7651 or **asmstan@attcanada.ca**.

DIGITIZATION WORKSHOP MEETING

On February 14, 2002, reference and automation staff from public libraries in Nova Scotia, as well as staff from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library and Learning Resources and Technology met for a general introduction to digitization projects. Goals of the session included an overview of the planning process, sharing of information and experiences amongst participants, and an exploration of what is being done within public libraries in Nova Scotia. The session began with a discussion of the planning required in the initial stages of the

digitization process, lead by Department of Education staff members Kelly Campbell, Internet Development Co-ordinator, and Jim MacLean, Manager of Technical Services.

Following this discussion, the group benefited from a showcase of digitization projects already published on the web or currently being developed by staff from WCRL, SSRL, and PARL . The completed projects can be viewed at **http://www.parl.ns.ca/pages/history.html**.

Presenters described how the projects were developed, what successes and pitfalls were encountered, and what they would have done differently, given the chance. All participants were then encouraged to ask questions and discuss digitization issues during a roundtable session. Finally, as a follow up to the meeting, Provincial Library staff agreed to contact government, museum and university staff involved in digitization within Nova Scotia, in order to explore any opportunities for joint projects and training.

CLA/APLA 2002: SPECIAL BULK RATE FOR ATLANTIC LIBRARIES

So you're planning to attend the CLA/APLA Conference in June? And you're a librarian/library staff member or board member/library trustee currently working/residing in the Atlantic Provinces? Then take advantage of the first time ever special bulk registration fee for Atlantic Canada!

This limited time offer of $285 (full conference package) is contingent on 175 people confirming their registration before March 15, 2002. CLA/APLA is also happy to offer a special daily rate of $190, contingent on 25 delegates confirming before March 15, 2002. Membership in CLA or APLA is not required to be eligible for either rate. Individuals can register singly or through their institutions.

To confirm your attendance please phone (902-457-6200) or e-mail **marnie.macgillivray@msvu.ca** by March 15, 2002. To register, print the registration form from the CLA website **http://www.cla.ca/conference/cla2002/forms/registration2002.pdf** . In the fees portion, write "Special bulk rate $285.00 or $190.00". Include a cheque or money order for this amount only and make it out to APLA. Send completed registration forms and payments by April 8th, 2002 to:

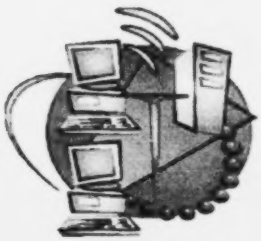
Marnie MacGillivray
APLA Treasurer
Reference/Instruction Librarian
Mount Saint Vincent University
166 Bedford Highway
Halifax, NS B3M 2J6

All cheques and forms must be received by April 15th, 2002. Payment for any social events should be made to CLA by cheque or credit card number. For further information please contact: Jennifer Richard, Chair, Local Arrangements CLA/APLA 2002, Acadia University, jennifer.richard@acadiau.ca, (902) 585-1403.

CIBC SPONSORSHIP OF SUMMER READING Program (SRP) 2002

It is now official! As the result of a presentation in October 2001 to CIBC's General Manager, Regional Operations (Retail) Atlantic, Mr. Rupert MacBeath, the province wide SRP has received a one year corporate sponsorship of $10,000.00, with the option of reapplying for the next two years. The money from this sponsorship will be used to purchase SRP promotional material for each region and will help to cut the cost of these items. CIBC is hoping that branch staff throughout Nova Scotia will participate in the SRP activities planned around the program. SRP posters will be displayed in all CIBC branches in Nova Scotia. This sponsorship should help to make this one of the most exciting reading programs to date!

REFERENCE ON THE NET



These reference questions, which were referred to the Provincial Library by the Regional Public Libraries, were answered with help from resources found on the Internet.

Q. Would like to find some information on the H.W. Cooey Machine and Arms Co. which made guns in the early 1900's and merged with Winchester in 1961.

A. At the Winchester Guns web site at **http://www.winchester-guns.com** the Other Links section has a link to the Winchester Arms Collector's Association (W.A.C.A.) at **http://www.winchestercollector.org**.

Click here on the Winchester Collector Magazine and then "Selected Features from Past Issues". This leads to an article titled *What is a Cooey?* Since this was a Canadian company, a good place to look is the National Library of Canada's AMICUS Database at **http://amicus.nlc-bnc.ca/aaweb/amilogine.htm**.

At the Basic Search screen enter "cooey" and select the Subject browse index. This locates the subject heading "Cooey Machine & Arms Company History" which leads to a publication titled *Cooey firearms made in Canada, 1919-1979 : the H.W. Cooey Machine & Arms Co.,*

Winchester-Western (Canada) Ltd., Winchester-Cooey by John A. Belton. There are locations attached to the record from which an interlibrary loan can be requested.

Q. The patron wants some biographical information on Essie Summers, a romance novelist from New Zealand.

A. A good place to start a search for this is Literary Resources on the Net at **http://andromeda.rutgers.edu/~jlynch/Lit** which is a collection of links by Jack Lynch, an English professor at Rutgers University. At this page the Women's Literature & Feminism link leads to A Celebration of Women Writers at **http://digital.library.upenn.edu/women** which has a large collection of links to information on women writers worldwide. Information can be found by searching by name, date, country, and ethnicity or you can browse by author name or by country. The site locates biographical information on Essie Summers on the web site of Christchurch City Libraries in New Zealand.

LINKed

This month's Linked column is written to coincide with celebrations taking place in March for the 250th anniversary of the first newspaper published in Canada, which happens to be the Halifax Gazette published in 1752. As a result some interesting and useful sites on Canadian newspapers are featured here.

The National Library of Canada's web site features two digital projects on old newspapers. *Images of Special Editions of Canadian Newspapers* from the National Library's collection can be viewed at **http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/2/14/index-e.html**. These special colour supplements from various time periods were published to mark important events. *Images in the News: Canadian Illustrated News* at **http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/cin** is a bilingual database of almost 4,000 images of people, places and events across Canada and around the world. These images have been taken from *Canadian Illustrated News* which was published in Montreal from 1869 to 1883. You can browse or search the database by subject/keyword, title, artist or date.

The National Library also has two newspaper finding aids on its site. *Canadian Newspapers on Microform Held by the NLC* at **http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/8/18/index-e.html** lists over 2,300 Canadian newspaper titles. You can click on a particular province to get a listing of newspapers by community. In the *Checklist of Indexes to Canadian Newspapers Held by the National Library of Canada* at **http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/8/12/index-e.html** index listings can be

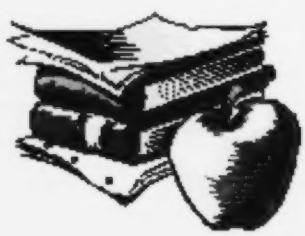
viewed by province, by index title and by newspaper title. Coverage is from the eighteenth century to the present and many of the indexes include only birth, marriage and death notices. A lot of the indexes in the *Checklist* are available from the National Library through interlibrary loan.

The Canadian Newspaper Association is the organization which represents daily newspapers in Canada. Its bilingual site is located at **http://www.cna-acj.ca**. The site includes *The Ultimate Guide To Newspapers* at **http://www.cna-acj.ca/newspapers** where you can find circulation data, ownership information and links to online newspapers. A similar organization is the Canadian Community Newspapers Association (CCNA) at **http://www.ccna.ca** except that it represents weekly newspapers in Canada. There is a database of member newspapers at **http://www.communitynews.ca/database** and information on ownership at **http://www.communitynews.ca/ownership**. The Atlantic Community Newspapers Association at **http://www.acna.com** is the local arm of the CCNA.

Researchers who are interested in events along the South Shore of Nova Scotia may find the searchable archive of stories on the Lighthouse Publishing site at **http://www.lighthouse.ns.ca/search/index.asp** useful. The archive currently dates back to 1999 and has the contents of the *Bridgewater Bulletin* and *The Lunenburg Progress Enterprise*. You have to subscribe to get the full text of the articles but the headline, date and the first few sentences of articles are free so this makes a good finding aid.

Web sites which were featured in previous "Linked" columns are now arranged by subject category on the Reference Services page of the Provincial Library web site at **http://www.library.ns.ca/reference/index.html**. If you have any suggestions about future topics for this column please contact Carol Morris at **morrisc@gov.ns.ca**.

PROFESSIONAL READING



In this month's column, two recent additions to the professional collection are featured. These items can be borrowed through regular interlibrary loan channels. Please send requests via email to Dale MacMillan at inshpl@nshpl.library.ns.ca.

Barclay, Donald A. - *Managing public-access computers : a how-to-do-it manual for librarians.* New York : Neal-Schuman, c2000. [SERIES : How-to-do-it manuals for librarians ; no. 96].

Call #: PROF 025 .00285 Bar

The essential theme of this book is that effective management of public access computers is a balancing act between providing free access to computers and positive user relations and security and maintenance needs. The author reviews the types of information about technology that a manager needs to know, and then he discusses the physical facilities for computer installations, hardware, software, CD-ROMs and printers. Next, he turns to management issues such as working with the systems department, security issues, issues relating to staffing public-access computer installations, staff training and relations with end users. He also provides a list of website resources and sample forms / checklists for such functions as inventory, usage observations, staff scheduling, self-training and user feedback.

Wilkinson, Frances C. - *The RFP process : effective management of the acquisition of library materials* / Frances C. Wilkinson, Connie Capers Thorson. Englewood, Colo. : Libraries Unlimited, 1998. Call #: PROF 025 .2 Wil

This book has two specific aims. The first is to encourage libraries of any size and focus to go through the RFP process. The second is to help librarians and staff make reasonable choices in how to plan the process, write RFPs and evaluate and choose the vendor final selection. The book contains five sections that deal with all aspects of the RFP process for materials in a variety of formats and languages: Writing the RFP for approval plans, serials and electronic services; writing the subject - specific RFP; evaluating vendor proposals; implementing the decisions; and following up. The final section of the book presents the perspective of vendors. The bibliography provides suggestions for further reading, while the appendices provide a sample time line, a sample cover letter, sample RFP questions, sample questions for vendor references and a sample evaluation and recommendation form.

Credits go to:

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